**Essay Writing Rubric**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Highly Competent | Competent | Satisfactory | Not Yet Satisfactory |
| Content | * Clearly and accurately explains an original topic * Effectively proves a point | * Original ideas * Relevant and appropriate supporting detail | * Mundane but adequate ideas * Some supporting sentences | * Unoriginal ideas * Marginal support |
| Structure | * Organization is clear and original * Strong main idea which clearly states the purpose * Strong lead and effective clincher | * Well organized and logical * Effective lead * Adequate closure and transitions | * Evidence of organization * Adequate lead and conclusion | * Inadequate organization * Lacks effective lead and conclusion |
| Style | * Word choice is vivid and precise * Highly original * Sentences are varied in length and complexity | * Clear and descriptive word choice * Uses transitions and logical development * Attempts originality * Attempts sentence variation | * Adequate vocabulary * Ineffective transitions and development * Ordinary sentence structure | * Ineffective vocabulary * Awkward sentence structure makes it incoherent * Lacks variety and originality |
| Mechanics | * Accurate spelling, punctuation, capitalization * Grammatically correct * Errors show willingness to take risks | * Few spelling errors, misuse of punctuation, capitalization; grammar, does not interfere with reading | * Some errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar | * Frequent errors in spelling punctuation, capitalization, and grammar. |